

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

170813Z May 01

CONFIDENTIAL PTQ3613

PAGE 01 HARARE 01632 01 OF 02 170805Z
ACTION AID-00

INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	AF-00	ACQ-00	CIAE-00	COME-00	DODE-00
	WHA-00	SRPP-00	DS-00	EB-00	EUR-00	FBIE-00	VC-00
	TEDE-00	INR-00	LAB-01	VCE-00	NSAE-00	OES-01	SSO-00
	SS-00	STR-00	TRSE-00	DSCC-00	DRL-02	NFAT-00	SAS-00

/004W

-----ECEEAD 170806Z /38

FM AMEMBASSY HARARE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8892
INFO NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE
SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 HARARE 001632

SIPDIS

NSC FOR SENIOR AFRICA DIRECTOR JENDAYI FRAZER

LONDON FOR CHARLES GURNEY

PARIS FOR BISA WILLIAMS

PASS USAID FOR AFR/SA - C. PALMA AND N. NEWMAN

PASS USTR FOR ROSA WHITAKER

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 HARARE 01632 01 OF 02 170805Z
E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/17/11
TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [PINS](#) [ETRD](#) [ZI](#) [CA](#) [DA](#)
SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER INFORMS WESTERN
AMBASSADORS OF CABINET DECISION TO REIN IN WAR VETERANS

REF: (A) HARARE 1535 (NOTAL)

(B) HARARE 1447 (NOTAL)

CLASSIFIED BY CHARGE D'AFFAIRES EARL M. IRVING FOR
REASONS 1.5 (B) AND (D).

1. (C) CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER JAMES WALL TOLD
CHARGE ON MAY 16 THAT FOREIGN MINISTER STANISLAUS
MUDENGE HAD SUMMONED HIM, THE GERMAN AND DANISH
AMBASSADORS EARLIER THAT DAY TO COMMUNICATE CABINET'S
DECISION TO PUT AN END TO PELL-MELL INVASIONS OF URBAN
FIRMS BY OSTENSIBLE WAR VETERANS SEEKING PAY OUTS FOR
DISMISSED EMPLOYEES. HE EXPLAINED THAT CABINET HAD
DISCUSSED THE MATTER AND CONCLUDED THAT THERE WAS NO
HISTORICAL BASIS FOR THE INVASIONS AND THAT GOVERNMENT
STRUCTURES EXISTED TO DEAL WITH WORKERS' COMPLAINTS.
THE FOREIGN MINISTER SAID THAT MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS
JOHN NKOMO WOULD MAKE AN ANNOUNCEMENT TO THAT EFFECT
LATER IN THE DAY.

2. (U) THE CHOICE OF AMBASSADORS WAS NOT AN ACCIDENT.
HIGH COMMISSIONER WALL DISAPPEARED INTO ZANU-PF HARARE
PROVINCIAL HEADQUARTERS ALONG WITH THE CANADIAN CITIZEN
DIRECTOR OF CARE ON MAY 4. A DISGRUNTLED EMPLOYEE WHO
HAD BEEN LAID OFF SOUGHT REINSTATEMENT AND BACK PAY FROM
CARE THAT THE WAR VETERANS WERE HAPPY TO HELP HIM

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 HARARE 01632 01 OF 02 170805Z
SECURE. WHILE IN THE PARTY PROVINCIAL HEADQUARTERS WALL
PROTESTED THE KANGAROO COURT AND WAS ASSAULTED BY WAR
VETERANS (REF A). WAR VETERANS INVADED THE DANISH-OWNED
DANDY CHEWING GUM FACTORY ON MAY 11, RESULTING IN THE
FACTORY BEING CLOSED AND ALL 550 EMPLOYEES BEING
FURLOUGHED INDEFINITELY. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTING,
THE DANISH FOREIGN MINISTER MOGENS LYKKETOFT WROTE HIS
ZIMBABWEAN COUNTERPART PROTESTING THE INVASION. WAR
VETERANS ALSO INVADED THE OFFICES OF THE FRIEDRICH EBERT
FOUNDATION ON APRIL 23, AND LATER THE FOOD WAREHOUSE,
WHICH THEY LOOTED CLEAN, OF THE GERMAN-OPERATED NON-
GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION "HELP," AND THE S.O.S.
CHILDREN'S VILLAGE, A GERMAN-SUPPORTED ORPHANAGE (REF
B) .

3. (U) AS MUDENGE PROMISED OUR DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUES,
MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS JOHN NKOMO ON MAY 16 ORDERED
POLICE TO ARREST "PEOPLE MASQUERADING AS LIBERATION WAR
VETERANS, [WHO HAVE BEEN] GOING AROUND EXTORTING MONEY
FROM COMPANY OWNERS AND EMPLOYERS UNDER THE PRETEXT OF

SOLVING LONG-STANDING LABOUR DISPUTES." NKOMO SAID THEIR ACTIONS CONSTITUTED EXTORTION AND KIDNAPPING AND HE ADVISED ANYONE WHO HAS BEEN FORCED TO PAY MONEY TO REPORT THEIR EXPERIENCES TO THE NEAREST POLICE STATION. NKOMO THEN EMPHASIZED THAT "WE WILL LEAVE NO STONE UNTURNED IN OUR QUEST TO BRING THE PERPETRATORS TO BOOK."

14. (C) COMMENT: IT HAS TAKEN OVER A MONTH AND A STORM OF PROTESTS FROM EMBASSIES AND CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS, FOREIGN AND LOCAL, TO GET THE GOVERNMENT'S ATTENTION AND
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 HARARE 01632 01 OF 02 170805Z
ACTION. MANY SENIOR OFFICIALS IN GOVERNMENT ARE DISGUSTED WITH THE TARGETING OF COMPANIES AND NGOS. FOLLOWING ON THE HEELS OF THE RESIGNATION OF INDUSTRY AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE MINISTER NKOSANA MOYO, WE HAVE HEARD THAT THE PERMANENT SECRETARY IN THE MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, PUBLIC WORKS AND NATIONAL HOUSING AND OTHER SENIOR CIVIL SERVANTS PLAN TO SUBMIT THEIR RETIREMENT PAPERS IMMINENTLY. IN ADDITION, VETERAN ZANU-PF POLITICIAN EDDISON ZVOBGO RECENTLY TOLD US THAT A NUMBER OF SENIOR GOVERNMENT PEOPLE -- INCLUDING FINANCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MINISTER SIMBA MAKONI -- HAVE ASKED HIM PRIVATELY HOW THEY CAN GET OUT. DESPITE THE WIDESPREAD REALIZATION IN OFFICIAL CIRCLES THAT THE LATEST

ITERATION OF THE GOVERNMENT'S "URBAN CAMPAIGN" IS BACKFIRING DOMESTICALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY, THE ULTIMATE POWER TO REIN IN THE WAR VETERANS RESTS WITH PRESIDENT MUGABE. SINCE PRESIDENT MUGABE LAST YEAR OVERRULED BOTH NKOMO AND VICE-PRESIDENT MSIKA WHEN THEY VOWED TO EVICT FARM INVADERS, WE WILL NOT INVEST MUCH OPTIMISM IN NKOMO'S ORDER THIS TIME UNLESS IT IS FOLLOWED BY REAL ACTION ON THE GROUND. END COMMENT.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL PTQ3614

PAGE 01 HARARE 01632 02 OF 02 170806Z
ACTION AID-00

INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	AF-00	ACQ-00	CIAE-00	COME-00	DODE-00
	WHA-00	SRPP-00	DS-00	EB-00	EUR-00	FBIE-00	VC-00
	TEDE-00	INR-00	LAB-01	VCE-00	NSAE-00	OES-01	SSO-00
	SS-00	STR-00	TRSE-00	DSCC-00	DRL-02	NFAT-00	SAS-00
	/004W						

-----ECEEBO 170806Z /38

O 170813Z MAY 01
FM AMEMBASSY HARARE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8893
INFO NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE
SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 HARARE 001632

SIPDIS

NSC FOR SENIOR AFRICA DIRECTOR JENDAYI FRAZER

LONDON FOR CHARLES GURNEY

PARIS FOR BISA WILLIAMS

PASS USAID FOR AFR/SA - C. PALMA AND N. NEWMAN

PASS USTR FOR ROSA WHITAKER

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 HARARE 01632 02 OF 02 170806Z
E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/17/11
TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [PINS](#) [ETRD](#) [ZI](#) [CA](#) [DA](#)
SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER INFORMS WESTERN
AMBASSADORS OF CABINET DECISION TO REIN IN WAR VETERANS

IRVING

CONFIDENTIAL

>